Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a displayable menu from data of a menu data segment, the menu comprising separately rendered selectable menu buttons, wherein:
   - at least one group of two or more menu buttons is defined in said menu data segment, wherein each of the two or more menu buttons has associated a defined area on the display and each menu button that belongs to a particular menu page is separately rendered;
   - a menu button may belong to not more than one of said groups; and
   - a state is assigned to each separately rendered menu button, the state being "enabled" or "disabled", wherein only an enabled menu button may be displayed, wherein a button in the "enabled" state may have a further state of "normal," "selected," or "activated," and wherein not more than one menu button within a group may be enabled simultaneously.

2. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the areas of menu buttons that belong to different groups do not overlap and no display pixel may belong to more than one group.

3. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the area associated with a group comprises a plurality of partial areas not connected with each other.

4. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said group has associated a rectangular area, and wherein visible menu buttons that belong to said group cover only a part of said area, or cover said area completely.

5. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 4, wherein all visible menu buttons within a group cover the same part of said rectangular area.

6. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein a menu button has an associated command, the command being executed upon activation of the menu button, and the command comprising enabling or disabling of another menu button.

7. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the menu relates to audio-visual content of a removable storage medium, and the menu data are stored on said medium.

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for processing a data stream, the data stream comprising menu data for a displayable menu, wherein the displayable menu comprises selectable menu buttons to be separately rendered, the apparatus including
   - means for separately rendering each menu button that belongs to the same menu page;
   - means for defining, based on data from said data stream, at least one group of menu buttons, the group comprising two or more menu buttons, wherein a menu button may not belong to more than one group;
   - means for associating to each of said menu buttons a defined area on the display; and
   - means for assigning a state to each of said separately rendered menu buttons belonging to a group, the state being "enabled" or "disabled", wherein only an enabled menu button may be displayed, wherein a button in the "enabled" state may have a further state of "normal," "selected," or "activated," and wherein not more than one menu button within a group may be enabled simultaneously.

9. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the areas of menu buttons that belong to different groups do not overlap and no display pixel may belong to more than one group.

10. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein a menu button has an associated command, the command being executed upon activation of the menu button, and the command comprising enabling or disabling of another menu button.

11. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the menu relates to an audio-visual multimedia presentation being stored on a removable storage medium, and wherein the data stream is also stored on said medium.

12. (Currently Amended) Data storage medium containing audio-visual data and a menu data structure for generating a displayable menu relating to the audio-visual data, the displayable menu comprising selectable menu buttons, wherein for the menu data structure:

- all menu buttons are separately renderable;
- at least one group of separately renderable menu buttons is defined in said menu data structure, the group comprising two or more menu buttons and each of said menu buttons having associated a defined area on the display;
- a menu button may belong to not more than one of said groups;
- a state is assigned to each separately rendered menu button, the state being "enabled" or "disabled", wherein only an enabled menu button may be displayed, wherein a button in the "enabled" state may have a further state of "normal," "selected," or "activated," and wherein not more than one menu button within a group may be enabled simultaneously.

13. (Currently Amended) A menu data structure for generating a displayable menu relating to audio-visual data, the displayable menu comprising selectable menu buttons, wherein for the menu data structure:

- ~~defines~~ at least one group of menu buttons is defined within the menu data structure, the group comprising two or more menu buttons, ~~and~~ each of said menu buttons being separately renderable and having associated a defined area on the display;
- a menu button may belong to not more than one of said groups; and
- an initial state is assigned to each menu button, the state being "enabled" or "disabled", wherein only an enabled menu button may be displayed, wherein a button in the "enabled" state may have a further state of "normal," "selected," or "activated," and wherein not more than one menu button within a group may be enabled simultaneously.

14. (New) Method according to claim 1, wherein a menu button has one or more associated commands, and the data structure comprises, individually for each menu button, a parameter specifying the number of commands per button.

15. (New) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein a menu button has one or more associated commands, and the data structure comprises, individually for each menu button, a parameter specifying the number of commands per button.

16. (New) Data storage medium according to claim 12, wherein a menu button has one or more associated commands, and the data structure comprises, individually for each menu button, a parameter specifying the number of commands per button.

17. (New) Menu data structure according to claim 13, wherein a menu button has one or more associated commands, and the data structure comprises, individually for each menu button, a parameter specifying the number of commands per button.

18. (New) Method according to claim 1, wherein each menu button has an associated horizontal and vertical display position.

19. (New) Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein each menu button has an associated horizontal and vertical display position.

20. (New) Data storage medium according to claim 12, wherein each menu button has an associated horizontal and vertical display position.

21. (New) Menu data structure according to claim 13, wherein each menu button has an associated horizontal and vertical display position.